People spending less then Rs. 20 a day

2192. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that 77 per cent of people are unable to spend even Rs. 20 a day;

(b) whether Government proposes to recognize these 77 per cent people as poor ones;

(c) whether it is a fact that a vast portion of these poor people remain deprived of the opportunities admissible for 26 per cent of people termed as BPL; and

(d) the policy of Government to do justice of the poorer section of people not coming under BPL category?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) No, Sir. Around 60.5 per cent of the population in India had per capita consumption expenditure of less than Rs. 20 per day in the year 2004-05.

(b) Government has no such proposal.

(c) and (d) There are several programmes of Government of India that are meant to benefit all persons and not just persons living below the poverty line. There are schemes where the BPL criterion does not have a role such as Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS); Mid-day meals programme (MDM), National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS), etc. These schemes are open to all.

People living on less than 2 Dollar a day

2193. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether 80 per cent of Indians live on less than 2 Dollar a day;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) As per the estimates provided in the 'Global Economic Prospects – 2009' published by the World Bank, 75.6 percent of the Indian population lived below 2 Dollar a day in the year 2005.

(c) The Government of India does not use the poverty estimates on the basis of International Poverty line, since it does not distinguish between rural and urban areas or between different states of the country.

Centrally Sponsored Schemes

2194. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes in operation now;

(b) the name of the schemes which are routed through State Government's budgets, directly through para-State agencies, local bodies and non- Governmental agencies; and